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IC-75-1369

27 FEB 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, GMAIC

SUBJECT : Proposed Weapons and Space Systems
Intelligence Committee (WSSIC)

1. Your proposed charter and LOI for the new WSSIC look like a good beginning to me and I suggest that you get on with clearing them throughout the Community, particularly with DIA. Please keep me advised of the progress being made and of any holdups you may encounter.

2. After you have gotten working level approval on these proposals, we will then pass them formally to the USIB for its approval.

/s/ Samuel V. Wilson

Samuel V. Wilson
Lieutenant General, USA
D/DCI/IC

DCI/IC/PRD/ [REDACTED] 24 Feb. 1975

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DCI/IC 75-1922

GUIDED MISSILE AND ASTRONAUTICS INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

4 FEB 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lieutenant General Samuel V. Wilson, USA,
Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence
Community

SUBJECT : Proposed Weapons and Space Systems
Intelligence Committee

1. Attached are proposals for a charter and an LOI for a new weapons and space committee of the USIB. If adopted, the committee would be known as the Weapon and Space Systems Intelligence Committee (WSSIC). GMAIC would be abolished.

2. I have studied several alternative ways to structure the new committee and conclude that the charter shown in Attachment A represents the best choice from the standpoint of accomplishing the committee's mission. At the same time it allows for efficient personnel use and effective internal coordination between working elements.

3. Since the main objective of the committee will be the assessment of the characteristics, performance and consequent threat of foreign weapons and space systems, the proposed organizational structure has been designed around the technical analysis of entire weapon systems. The WSSIC, along with each of its subcommittees and working groups, would be staffed as prescribed in DCID 1/3 except that Treasury will not be represented.

4. One of the problems implicit in an organization dealing with such an array of complex and dissimilar topics is the matter of staffing. The main committee in particular will require representatives of extremely broad scope to effectively manage the variety of problems that must be addressed. This is a manageable problem although use of a number of properly qualified alternate members or advisors probably will be required. Similarly, the subcommittees would require members who are closely involved in the analysis efforts in their respective organizations. The job cannot be done by a group of "meeting goers."

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5. If the proposed charter (Attachment A) and LOI (Attachment B) are found acceptable, I will review the responsibilities and structure of WSSIC in about six months from its inception and report to you any additional recommendations I might have at that time.

6. The views presented here are mine. I have not consulted other parts of the intelligence community.



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Chairman

Attachments:

- A. Proposed Charter
- B. Proposed LOI

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ATTACHMENT A

Proposed Charter for the
Weapons and Space Systems Intelligence Committee

I. Background

A new USIB committee, the Weapons and Space Systems Intelligence Committee (WSSIC), has been established. Its responsibilities derive from those previously held by the recently dissolved Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee and BW/CW, Naval Systems, and Aircraft Working Groups of the Scientific Intelligence Committee.

II. Mission

The primary mission of the Weapons and Space Systems Intelligence Committee (WSSIC) is to provide coordinated assessments of the design, development, production or acquisition, and deployment of foreign weapons and space systems which could significantly affect the national security or welfare of the United States. WSSIC will have no responsibility for assessing military order-of-battle, doctrine, or force posture. The main focus of the Committee is the determination of systems technical characteristics, performance and threat parameters; and the dissemination of these assessments through suitable reports, recommendations, or memorandums to the United States Intelligence Board, the National Intelligence Officers, the Intelligence Community Staff, or any other appropriate tasking authority. Specifically, the Committee will make substantive contributions to National Intelligence Estimates and Key Intelligence Questions.

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Efforts of the Committee will also be directed towards the establishment of relative priorities on substantive requirements (for collection, processing and analysis) within overall national intelligence objectives, the identification of deficiencies and gaps in weapons and space intelligence, the review of the scope and the effectiveness of collection and processing activities in response to resource management objectives, and the support of international conferences on weapons and space intelligence as

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required by USIB. In order to fulfill the mission described above, WSSIC will serve as a mechanism for the exchange of departmental information and encourage the community to support efforts of individual agencies where appropriate.

III. Areas of Substantive Responsibility

The following list of substantive areas conceptually defines the WSSIC's areas of responsibility and is not meant to be all inclusive nor limiting.

- A. General purpose weapon systems--BW/CW, tank, AAA, anti-tank.
- B. Aircraft weapon systems--bombers, ASMs, helicopters, tankers, transports, tactical aircraft.
- C. Naval weapon systems--ships, submarines, SLBMs, anti-ship missiles, ASW.
- D. Land-based ballistic missile systems.
- E. Defensive weapon systems--SAM, ABM, ASAT, AAM, interceptor aircraft.
- F. Space systems.

IV. Organization

The WSSIC will consist of seven standing subcommittees. Working groups or ad hoc study panels will be formed as required to handle special problem areas.

Subcommittees

Initially the WSSIC will have the following subcommittees to support the Committee in the fulfillment of its assigned responsibilities:

1. General Purpose Weapon Systems Subcommittee
2. Aircraft Weapon Systems Subcommittee
3. Naval Weapon Systems Subcommittee
4. Ballistic Missile Systems Subcommittee

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5. Defensive Weapon Systems Subcommittee
6. Space Systems Subcommittee
7. PRC Missile and Space Systems Subcommittee

(The first six subcommittees listed will deal with Soviet weapon and space systems.)

Each subcommittee will develop and maintain coordinated community actions in its area of substantive responsibility. As a matter of routine, each subcommittee will exercise initiative in informing WSSIC of significant new developments on a timely basis, and in recommending actions that should be taken on important problems. Each subcommittee will effect an exchange of information concerning collection and production of intelligence, review all significant data in its field produced or provided by the individual agencies, and perform assessments as appropriate for presentation to WSSIC in written or oral reports as requested. Each subcommittee will also support and participate in international conferences as appropriate.

Each agency represented on the WSSIC will have representation on all subcommittees. Other agencies which have a major role to play may also be granted subcommittee representation upon WSSIC approval. The chairmen of the subcommittees will be designated by WSSIC and normally will serve for no more than three years, subject to an annual review. WSSIC members will not be permitted to serve in a dual capacity as subcommittee representatives or chairmen.

Working Groups

The Committee, or subcommittees with the Committee's concurrence, may form working groups to study particular problems. Such working groups will be kept to a minimum in an effort to have most of the work done in a systems concept. There are presently no working groups.

Ad Hoc Study Panels

Ad hoc study panels will be formed for the specific purpose of handling a well-defined, high-priority task levied by the WSSIC. They will be temporary in nature, and may include representatives serving on WSSIC subcommittees or working groups.

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ATTACHMENT B

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Weapon and Space Systems
Intelligence Committee (WSSIC)

SUBJECT : Letter of Instruction

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to identify the problems which I expect the WSSIC to engage during FY 1975. The following takes into account the expansion of your responsibilities as Chairman, WSSIC, vice GMAIC by the dissolution of the Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee and the Naval Systems, Aircraft, and BW/CW Working Groups of the Scientific Intelligence Committee whose combined responsibilities you now are to assume.

2. My general instructions are:

a. Intelligence Coordination. The scope of your principal responsibilities encompasses assessments of foreign powers to design, develop, produce, or acquire and deploy weapon and space systems. The main focus is the determination or projection of systems' technical characteristics, performances and vulnerabilities. The WSSIC has no responsibility for assessing military doctrine or force posture.

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b. Collection and Data Processing. I am concerned about an imbalance between our collection, processing and analysis assets--as well as the increasing difficulty of acquiring critically needed technical data brought on by a growing sophistication in Soviet instrumentation and communications systems. I anticipate a growing demand for the WSSIC to address these problems aimed at the most efficient use of our finite resources for collection, processing, analysis, and ultimately the production of intelligence.

c. Intelligence Production. The production of intelligence is basically the responsibility of all departments and agencies represented on USIB. This is not to be rigidly interpreted, however, since I will from time to time expect the WSSIC to address important time-critical questions even though USIB departments and agencies may not have yet published their analyses.

d. While the WSSIC is a committee of the USIB, it also shall be responsive to requests from the IRAC, the NIOs and the IC Staff. I will decide on a case-by-case basis which of the matters undertaken in response to such requests are to be brought to the USIB's attention.

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e. I expect you to concentrate most of your efforts on the KIQs which reflect the highest priority interests of government. Nevertheless, you are not to ignore other functions such as keeping abreast of the technical characteristics and capabilities of foreign weapon and space systems not included in the KIQs. Other important areas of interest identified in DCID 1/2 are to be dealt with in accordance with their indicated priorities.

3. Specifically, I instruct you to:

a. Review the effectiveness of WSSIC's overall activities resulting from the recent combining of GMAIC and certain SIC responsibilities. In particular I would like to receive by 1 July 1975 your recommendations on:

(1) Any adjustments that may be needed in WSSIC's basic charter.

(2) The desirability of a separate WSSIC organizational entity on collection.

b. Ensure that the proper emphasis and assets of the intelligence community are being applied to the problem of Soviet ICBM accuracy determination. This being one of the most critical problems facing us today, prepare and deliver to me by the end of the second quarter CY 1975 your response to KIQ 7.

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c. Undertake a study concerning the accuracy of Soviet submarine-launched ballistic missiles according to the guidance provided by the NIO/SP. The due date for this report is July 1975.

d. Ensure that appropriate agencies address the problem of assessing the vulnerability of the deployed Soviet ICBM sites. Prepare a status report by the third quarter CY 1975.

e. Continue to monitor the actions being taken to improve intelligence on Soviet anti-ship missiles as a follow-on to your recent report on this subject and report to the Board as appropriate.

f. Maintain cognizance of what is being done in the intelligence community concerning the analysis of Soviet ABMs--and take whatever steps are required to ensure that the proper emphasis is being applied to the problem. Report to me any specific problems with your recommendations.

g. Prepare a study which determines perceived gaps in our knowledge of Soviet space systems, identifies special collection activities that are likely to provide significant intelligence relative to the above gaps, and describe the analytic effort planned for CY 1975 against Soviet space systems. This study must be completed by 31 March 1975.

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h. Continue to report on the intelligence support to the ASTP in fulfillment of the NASA requirement.

i. Ensure that the community is giving adequate attention to new Soviet spacecraft, particularly as regards their uses for military and intelligence purposes.

4. There are continuing WSSIC actions which I support that are closely tied to events or developing situations. Some of these are:

a. The assignment of missile system and space launcher designators.

b. Support of and participation in international meetings.

c. Responses in support of the SAL Monitoring Working Group.

d. Recommended additions, revisions or deletions to the KIQs.

5. In order to provide as complete a solution as possible to many of the complex problems to be addressed by WSSIC, you are instructed, where appropriate, to cooperate with those agencies of government not normally considered part of the intelligence community. In addition you are

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directed to cooperate fully with the chairmen of other USIB committees such as JAEIC and STIC so that all aspects of wide-ranging intelligence problems may be explored and resolved on a multi-disciplinary basis.

DRAFT

W. E. COLBY
Director

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